
From: Wu, Jennifer
To: Waye, Don
CC: Henning, Alan
Sent: 10/21/2014 11:52:55 PM
Subject: Re: Impairments/TMDLs affecting Myrtle Point & Powers, Oregon

Hi Don, that's right that there's a TMDL in the works for the Coquille - public draft due in a few months. Alan is pretty familiar with this basin, and I'll also ask the TMDL project manager about this, maybe also the DEQ project manager, too.

From: Waye, Don
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 1:28 PM
To: Wu, Jennifer
Cc: Henning, Alan
Subject: Impairments/TMDLs affecting Myrtle Point & Powers, Oregon

Jenny (cc Alan),

I left you a VM about these two towns/cities along the Coquille River. I have concluded that there is no current TMDL for the Coquille, but that one is in the works. It appears that the entire length of the river is listed for bacteria, temperature and "organic enrichment"/DO. See:

http://ofmpub.epa.gov/tmdl_waters10/attains_wb_history.control?p_listed_water_id=OR14B-COMF0&p_cycle=1998

This listing comports with the info we have on Myrtle Point in the "OR CZARA Cities" spreadsheet that you and I have been working on, but it does not comport with the information we have for Powers, Oregon. I am wondering if you think we can note that the bacteria listing for the Coquille River would require the City of Powers to comply with DEQ's post-construction stormwater management requirements—so I can credit one more city in our new development rationale.

Also, will you please look over my draft response below (OSDS section) and let me know if you think it is accurate?

Comment: One commenter noted that some communities, such as Myrtle Point and Powers, discharge sewage during rain events, preventing shellfish harvest.

Source: 17-B

Response: The commenter asserts that heavy rains dump raw sewage into the Coquille River from Myrtle Point and Powers. The entire length of the Coquille River is currently listed as impaired for bacteria and other causes, and failing septic systems have been identified as a potential source for this impairment. Oregon DEQ is planning to establish a TMDL and develop a TMDL implementation plan. The DEQ is also committed to exercising its authority to require DMAs to develop and implement strategies for meeting water quality standards, and to track this implementation. NOAA and EPA believe that Oregon's new Septic Smart program to promote expanded inspections of septic systems will go a long way to prevent failures. NOAA and EPA further believe that Oregon has the necessary incentives and enforceable policies and mechanisms to ensure that the inspections element of the existing OSDS management measure is met.

Thanks!

Don Waye
U.S. EPA - Nonpoint Source Control Branch
Phone: 202-566-1170